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Sandbach Urban

District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer
of Health, 1938.

ANDREW HENDERSON, M.B., Ch.B.

Medical Officer.

SANDBACH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1938.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I respectfully beg to submit my Report for the past year 1938.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,699
Population of Census 1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,411
Estimated Population, 1938, including extended Area	...						8,365
Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population, 1938.							8,463
Number of Inhabited Houses, December, 1938	...						2,541
Rateable Value, 31/12/38	...	...	...	...	...	...	£38,416
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£148/9/4

One third of the Area is on sandy soil, the remainder on clay sub-soil.

The men find employment in Agriculture, and at the following trades :—Chemical, Salt, Brush Making, Motor Body Building, Wire Manufacturing, Engineering, Central Heating and Paint Manufacturing.

The women find occupations at Paper Works, Silk Mills, Salt Packing, Artificial Silk, Garment Making, Dairy and Domestic Service.

The Area has enjoyed a year of industrial prosperity and the unemployed figures are substantially decreased.

Vital Statistics.

		Total.	Male.	Female.
Live Births	...	129	70	59
	... Illegitimate	—	—	—

Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population, 15.4.

		Total.	Male.	Female.
Still Births, 1. All Legitimate	1	1	0	1

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) birth, 9.9.

Deaths, 103.	Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	12.3
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Deaths from Maternity and Puerperal Causes ... Nil.

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	90
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 live births	90
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate births...	Nil.
Deaths from Cancer, all ages	13
Deaths from Measles, all ages	1
,, ,, Whooping Cough, all ages...	1
,, ,, Diarrhoea under two years...	Nil.
Children in all died under one year	12
Of the 103 deaths, 24 were transferable deaths.	

General Provision of Health Services

for the Area.

Medical Officer of Health : Andrew Henderson, M.B.Ch.B.

Sanitary and Building Inspector : George Allman, M.S.I.A.
Cert. R.S.I.

Health Visiting Nurse : Nurse Owen, C.M.B.

Maternity Nurse : Nurse Harper, C.M.B.

 ,, ,, Nurse Crawford, C.M.B.

 ,, ,, Nurse Mitham, C.M.B.

Laboratory Facilities.

The town pays for the examination of approved Pathological Specimens which may be sent to Chester or Manchester.

Ambulance Facilities.

A St. John's Ambulance is kept in the town for non-infectious cases, and West Heath Sanatorium Ambulance for infectious cases and bedding.

Nursing in the Home.

A service is provided for subscribers by the Local Nursing Association.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Adequate and convenient Clinics are available for Tubercular, Orthopædic, Ante-natal and V.D. cases ; and an additional service, namely : Radium Clinic for Cancer cases, with a visitant consultant, has lately been formed.

The Child Welfare Centre.

is held at the Marriott House every week. Nurse Owen is in charge, and she is assisted by the Ladies of the Town and the local Nurses. The local Doctors attend for one year alternatively, and Dr. Jean Shaw, of the County, inspects at intervals.

Attendances seen by Doctors	...	...	1116
not „ „ „	...	...	1021
Total attendances	...	...	2137
Sessions held	...	...	51
Average attendance per Session	...	...	42.37
New Cases entered during 1937	...	...	94

No Baby Competition was held during the year, but a delightful Tea-party before X'mas. was given by the Ladies.

Manchester Hospitals subscribed to by Town and Works admit freely all medical and surgical cases. Crewe, Winsford, and the Potteries Hospitals take a few selected surgical and medical cases. Arclid Infirmary, with 80 beds, belonging to the Cheshire County Council. admits poor medical cases free and others at a reasonable cost. It also admits mental cases and accidents. It is being fitted up with Operating Theatre, etc., etc., and is to be used as a Base Hospital in the event of Air Raids.

Maternity cases can have Specialists, if necessary, at the Manchester Maternity Hospitals, Longton Cottage Hospital, Sandbach Nursing Home, Arclid and Crewe Maternity Home. The County Council's appointed Specialists, besides giving service at those centres, are available for consultation or active treatment in the patient's own home if necessary.

The Sandbach Nursing Home is fully equipped for surgical, medical, and maternity cases.

Infectious cases are removed to West Heath Sanatorium, Congleton. The removal is affected by Motor Ambulance, and they also disinfect bedding, etc.

A Small-pox Hospital at Arclid is kept in readiness and has ten beds.

A series of Lectures under the M.O.H. Department on food diet and fitness will be given, starting in April, 1939.

Classes for Physical Fitness under the M.O.H. Department, and under the direct supervision of fully qualified Instructors will be given, starting in April, 1939, if the instructor's fees can be found.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water.

The mechanical filter and base exchange softeners have continued to give a very satisfactory quality of Water, and there has been no difficulty in maintaining a stabilized supply at about five degrees of hardness.

During the year an Electric Motor capable of driving all the Waterworks plant was installed and has been satisfactory. With this 60 h.p. Motor and the Crude Oil Engines, we now have duplicate driving plant, each set of which is of sufficient power to cope with the maximum consumption.

There were no long extensions of supply mains during 1938, the only extension being about 80 yards in Hind Heath Road, near the Ettiley Heath Goods Station. 42 connections were made to the mains during the year, and from these 65 additional Dwelling-houses will be supplied.

Drainage and Sewage.

The major portion of the Sewage is treated at the Hind Heath and Elworth Works. A small portion of Elworth Street and Bradwall Road Sewage is treated at the Elworth Street Filter Bed, which is working very satisfactory.

The question of the increased load now placed upon the Elworth Works is having further consideration by the Council.

Closet Accommodation.

Water Closets.	Pail Closets.	Privy Closets.
2,454	47	40

Types of Refuse Receptacles.

Fixed Ashpits.	Movable Ashbins.
65	2,475

Refuse Removal and Disposal.

The contents of Ashpits, Movable Receptacles and Traders' Refuse are disposed of on low lying wet land on the outskirts of the district. Every endeavour is made to carry out this work with as little inconvenience as possible. Extra labour is employed during holiday periods so that a regular service may be maintained.

The contents of Closets, other than Water Closets, are readily disposed of on the land in the country districts..

Pail Closets are emptied	...	...	... Weekly.
Privy Closets are emptied	as required.		
Ashpits are emptied	every 6 to 8 weeks or as required.		
Dust Bins are emptied	weekly.		
Loads removed from Ashpits	...	...	61
(Motor) Loads removed from Dustbins	...		995
Cart	„ „ „	Trade Premises.	13
Pail and Privy Closets	...	...	147

This work is done mostly by direct labour.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Legislation in Force.

List of Adoptive Acts and Bye-Laws of the Council.

Sanitary Administration.

Private Street Works Act, 1892	...	Adopted 11/6/1900.
Part IV of the Public Health Act, Amendment Acts, 1890.		
Adopted 1/10/35.		
Part II (Streets and Buildings) other than Sections 23 and 26		of the Public Health Acts
Part IV (Infectious Diseases)		Amendments Act
Part VI (Recreation Ground)		1907, Adopted 9th July, 1932.
Part II (Sections 30 and 31) Public Health Act, 1925		
Adopted 9/12/35.		

Bye-Laws.

New Streets and Building	...	...	Adopted 1/2/1897
New Bye-Laws	...	...	16/6/24
Slaughter Houses	...	...	1/2/1897
Cleaning of Footways and Pavements	...	„	1/2/1897
Common Lodging Houses	...	„	1/2/1897
Nuisances	...	„	1/2/1897
Markets	...	„	1/12/1890

Number of Inspections during the year	...	...	1508
„ Statutory Notices served during the year			5
„ Informal	„	„	21
„	„	complied with	12
„	„	in hand	9

Action under Statutory Powers.

There were five Statutory Notices served under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936 ; in three cases the owner did the work, and the Local Authority, two.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-Laws and Regulations.

There are no underground sleeping rooms in the district.

The Lodging House is supplied with the necessary Sanitary services ; it is clean, light and well kept. No complaints during the year.

Forty-nine visits have been made to the Bakehouses in the area. There are seven on the register and a few Confectioners with limited sales.

Shops Act.

Various visits have been made during the year.

Smoke Abatement.

No action needed.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There is only one small Swimming Pool in the area.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No action was found necessary during the year. The Council will undertake this work if found necessary.

Arrangements for Disinfection.

Infected bedding, clothing and other articles are sent to West Heath Sanatorium for steam disinfection. Premises are immediately disinfected, and printed instructions and disinfectants are issued to the persons in charge of the premises.

Sixty-six inspections of such houses have been made.

Schools.

All the Schools have a good supply of Water and are now effectively seweried, and general improvements are being carried out.

The Clearance Scheme.

The Houses for the re-housing of persons displaced under the Council Clearance Scheme have all been occupied during the year. There are thirty-two Houses splendidly situated in the East Ward ; they are known as Stringer Avenue. Twenty-six Houses have been demolished.

The consideration for the erection of more Houses during 1939 is being considered.

Individual Unfit Houses.

Four of the seven Houses which were unfit have now been demolished. The occupiers of the remaining three have not yet found suitable accommodation.

Number of Houses erected during the Year.

By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	...	...	79
By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	32
By Other Bodies or Persons	...	...	...	...	...	0

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	280
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose						553
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose...						Nil.
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	Nil. Apart from Scheme.
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of these referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	Nil. Apart from Scheme.

2.—*Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices* :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 25

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year* :—

(a)—Proceedings under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 5

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By Owners 3

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners. 2

(c) In hand

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied Nil.

(2) Number of dwelling-house in which defects were remedies after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners Nil.

(b) By local authority in default of owners ... Nil.

(c)—Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made Nil.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders Nil.

(d) Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1937. Nil.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil.

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit Nil.

4. (a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year,	17
(b) " " families dwelling therein	... ... 17
(c) " " persons dwelling therein	... ... 137

Canal Boats.

No complaints have been received. 2 Visits have been made, and the boats have been found to be clean and satisfactory, and all aboard were healthy.

Work of Sanitary Inspector under Article XX.

The Sanitary Inspector makes monthly note of the defects and complaints to the Sanitary Committee. The owners are seen and every endeavour is made to have defects remedied without resort to legal proceedings.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.

The sampling of Milk is now chiefly carried on direct from the farms by the County Veterinary Inspectors.

Efforts are being made to improve the housing of cattle.

The District is well served as regards quantity, quality and standard of cleanliness.

The following grades of Milk are available :

Certified T.T.

Pasturized.

Sterilized.

Accredited.

Ordinary milk of no special grade.

The number of Registered Cowkeepers is 38.

Accredited 19.

Not Accredited 19.

Dairies and Cow Sheds.

74 Visits have been made to the Dairy and Cow Sheds, and a higher standard is now being attained.

No. of Dairies and Purveyors.

Number of Dairies	...	...	...	Nil.
„ „ Milk Retailers :	Certified	...	...	2
	Accredited	...	...	5
	Pasteurized	...	...	1
	Sterilized	...	...	4
	Not Graded	...	...	13
				—
Total	...	...	...	35
				—

Meat and other Foods.

A regular inspection of the Slaughter Houses is carried out. Occasionally a few Pigs are killed by cottagers. When slaughter is necessary outside the regular slaughtering days three hours' notice must be given to the Inspector.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known) ...					
Number inspected ...			30	400	150
All diseases except Tuberculosis :					
Whole Carcasses condemned		Nil.			
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned...					
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tubercu- losis					
Tuberculosis only :					
Whole Carcasses condemned	2	4			1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned...		23			39
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tu- berculosis					

Meat found to be unfit for food :—

(a) Bovines.	Carcases	...	...	6
	Forequarters	...	...	4
	Livers	...	...	7
	Lungs	...	...	10
	Heads	...	...	1
	Udders	...	...	1
(b) Pigs.	1 Pig, seven score	...	...	1
	Heads	...	...	28
	Plucks	...	...	7
	Livers	...	...	2
(c) Sheep.	Livers	...	...	4
	Plucks	...	...	2

Slaughter Houses.

There are two Registered and 7 Licensed Slaughter Houses.

Considerable improvements have taken place at the various Slaughter-places during the year. All are supplied with a constant supply of water and are kept clean.

Tuberculosis Order, 1925.

During the year 8 animals were notified as suffering under the order. Six of them were after slaughter found to be unfit for food and were destroyed.

Adulteration, etc.

This is in the hands of the County Council Officials who take samples for analysis.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

This is also in the hands of the County Council Officials, who take samples at intervals, which are examined in the County Laboratories.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Disease.

Notifiable Diseases.

Exclusive of Tuberculosis of which there were 12 cases, (last year 13), 60 cases, (last year 75), of Infectious Diseases, were notified as follows :—

Disease.	Number.	Admitted to			Died.
		Number.	Hospital.	...	
Scarlet Fever...	... 23	...	23	...	Nil.
Pneumonia ...	6	...	—	...	2
Diphtheria ...	19	...	19	...	3
Erysipelas ...	10	...	—	...	Nil.
Puerperal Fever ...	1	...	1	...	Nil.
Ophthalmia Neonatorium	1	...	1	...	Nil.
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	60	...	44	...	5
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Analysis of Notification under Age Groups.

Disease.	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65 & over	No.
Scarlet Fever	—	4	5	2	—	6	2	2	2	—	—	—	23
Diphtheria	...	—	1	1	1	10	4	3	—	—	—	—	19
Erysipelas	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	10	—
Pneumonia	...	...	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	1	6
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorium	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Fever	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	...	...	2	5	6	3	1	18	7	6	6	—	3
													60

School intimations of disease are utilized to the fullest extent. The Sanitary Department has in hand Diphtheria Antitoxin and Antistreptococcic Serum. These are supplied free to the local Practitioners. Schick Testing Material and T.A.M. are supplied free of charge, and have been used fairly extensively on children in the district by the general Practitioners.

Cancer.

Chester Royal Infirmary and the Cancer Hospital, Manchester, admit all cases readily, and provide every modern method of treatment.

There were 13 deaths from Cancer during the year between the age of 38 and 89 years of age.

Ovarian ...	...	...	...	1
Lung Cases	...	...	...	1
Uterine ...	...	...	...	3
Tongue ...	...	...	...	1
Lower Bowel	...	...	...	1
Stomach ...	...	...	...	3
Breast ...	...	...	...	2
Prostate ...	...	...	...	1
				—
Total	...	...	13	—

Prevention of Blindness.

All cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorium must be notified direct to M.O.H. of County as well as to the local M.O.H.

One case of Ophthalmia Neonatorium has been notified during the year. All our Maternity Nurses carry out the usual prophylactic treatment. Works eye accidents and the herpes, etc., of general practice are transferred at once to the Eye Infirmary, Manchester.

Prevention of Tuberculosis.

Persons suffering from Tuberculous are not allowed to milk or come in contact with milk that is for sale.

All Tubercular Patients requiring Hospital Treatment went voluntarily.

Tuberculosis.

Cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year ... 12
which died during the year. 2
No case died which had not been previously notified.

There were 4 Gland Cases, 1 Skin Case, 4 Lung Cases, 2 Abdominal Cases and 1 Miliary Case.

Age Periods.	New Cases.		Deaths.	
	Respiratory.	Non- Respiratory.	Respiratory.	Non- Respiratory.
Under 1	—	...	—	...
1—5	—	...	—	...
5—15	—	...	3	...
15—25	1	...	2	...
25—35	—	...	1	...
35—45	—	...	—	...
45—55	1	...	—	1
65 upwards	—	...	1	...

17 Samples of Sputum were sent to the Laboratory at Chester during the year and 1 was positive.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health, for the Year 1938, for the Urban District of Sandbach, on the Administration of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901,
in connection with

Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces.

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories, (including Factory Laundries)	31	...	...
Workshops, (including Work- shop Laundries)	29	...	...
Workplaces (other than Out- workers' Premises) ...	—	...	...
Total	60	Nil.	Nil.

(Signed)

ANDREW HENDERSON, M.B., Ch. B.,
Medical Officer of Health.

